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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 25, 2008

Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer Announces Major Funding for Montezuma Language Academy

Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer will allocate \$1.1 million to build a joint-use sports field at the Montezuma Language Academy. He will present a check to the Montezuma Language Academy Foundation tomorrow, June 26, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. during a ceremony at the Montezuma Language Academy Multicultural Fair. The Language Academy is located at 4961 64th Street.

The funding comes from Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) and will be used to turn an old dirt ball field into a 1.5 acre multi-purpose sports field. The new sports field will have either grass or high-tech turf. The project is a partnership between the City of San Diego and the San Diego Unified School District and is expected to cost \$1.2 million. The rest of the cost will be covered by the Montezuma Language Academy Foundation which allocated \$100,000 and has hired a sports field expert, David Reed Landscape Architects, to design the project.

"Parks and kids are a perfect combination and I'm pleased to bring the two together. This is the largest single allocation I've made as an elected official and the greatest CDBG allocation ever made by the City. This will be a significant asset to the school, an amenity for the greater community to enjoy, and stands as an indicator of my commitment to youth," Council President Pro Tem Madaffer said.

Building and expanding parks has been a priority for Council President Pro Tem Madaffer and the College Area is one of the most park deficient areas in the City of San Diego. Since assuming office in 2000, he has built five sports fields with new turf (Montezuma Language Academy will be the sixth) as well as making improvements at seven parks in District 7.